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Brian Baird
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1416 Ninth St. Suite 1311
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Dear Mr. Baird,

The "Draft Policy on Coastal Erosion" dated March 26, 2001 is well written and very informative. It became easy to see how important it will be to co-ordinate this program with other state and federal agencies. My comments are as follows:

1. Page III "Minimizing Hazards from Coastal Erosion" – I do not believe that "relocation" should be considered as one of the three major management strategies to plan for and respond to coastal erosion. It certainly is not an effective or efficient solution and as the policy states may not be technically feasible. "Hazard Avoidance" and "Coastal Protection" should be the only major strategies to consider. Relocation should be addressed when the primary strategies do not apply.
2. Page IV "Hard Protective Devices" – I disagree with some of the adverse impacts listed that these structures provide. I can think of no case locally that limits possible access because of armored bluffs and the footprint of the structure is minor and in most cases replaces the deteriorated bluff. What is not mentioned in the policy is that these structures make it a safe and usable beach and without it would require beach closure for public safety reasons. Also not stated in the policy is the homeowners right to protect private property.
3. Page V "Soft Protection". I question some of the impediments listed to beach nourishment. In most cases here in southern California the sand that should be on the beach is sitting on a sand bar just off the coast. For the last century the pattern has been winter storms remove six to eight feet of sand from our local beaches and the spring and summer waves wash it back up on the beach. Why this is not happening now no one seems to know, but what we do know is that the sand is sitting off the coast waiting for someone to pump it back on the beach. The Army Corps of Engineers has expertise in this area as they have performed this task for East Coast states for over thirty years.

It is imperative that the California Coastal Sediment Management Workgroup (CSMW) make this a state policy on a yearly basis before more precious property is lost unnecessarily.

Sincerely,


J.D. McGoldrick